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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/760,201	01/21/2004	Kia Silverbrook	MPA13US	1360

24011 7590 12/23/2005

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393 DARLING STREET
BALMAIN, NSW 2041
AUSTRALIA

EXAMINER

UHLENHAKE, JASON S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2853

DATE MAILED: 12/23/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/760,201

Applicant(s)

SILVERBROOK ET AL.

Examiner

Jason Uhlenhake

Art Unit

2853

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 11/03/2004.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Silverbrook (U.S. Pat. 6,916,082)

The applied reference has a common assignee with the instant application. Based upon the earlier effective U.S. filing date of the reference, it constitutes prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). This rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) might be overcome either by a showing under 37 CFR 1.132 that any invention disclosed but not claimed in the reference was derived from the inventor of this application and is thus not the invention “by another,” or by an appropriate showing under 37 CFR 1.131.

Silverbrook discloses:

- ***regarding claim 1***, at least one printhead module comprising at least two printhead integrated circuits, each of which has nozzles formed therein for delivering printing fluid onto the surface of print media (Abstract; Column 2, Lines 44 – 55), and a support member supporting the at least two printhead integrated circuits (Column 2, Lines 55 – 62)

- a casing in which the at least one printhead module is removably mounted (Column 6, Lines 36 – 40; Column 5, Lines 49 – 54)
- wherein the support member has at least one longitudinally extending channel (62 of Figure 1) for carrying the printing fluid for the printhead integrated circuits (Column 3, Lines 1 – 15)
- two fluid connectors provided to each connect with a longitudinal end of the at least one printhead module, each of the fluid connectors being arranged to connect at least one fluid delivery hose from a fluid supply to the at least one channel at the corresponding longitudinal end of the at least one printhead module (Column 5, Lines 63 – 68; Column 6, Lines 1 – 25)
- **regarding claim 2**, the support member has complementary female (82, 84 of Figure 8) and male (78, 80 of Figure 8) end portions (Column 5, Lines 63 – 68; Column 6, Lines 1 – 6)
- first one of the two fluid connectors is arranged to interconnect with the female end portion, and a second one of the two fluid connectors is arranged to interconnect with the male end portion ((Column 5, Lines 63 – 68; Column 6, Lines 1 – 6)
- **regarding claim 5**, wherein the fluid connectors have at least one tubular portion for connecting with the associated at least one fluid delivery hose and each tubular portion is arranged to be in fluid connection with the at least one channel of the printhead module (Column 5, Lines 63 – 68; Column 6, Lines 1 – 6)

- **regarding claim 6**, wherein each tubular portion is arranged so as to form a linear fluid connection with the at least one first channel (Column 5, Lines 63 – 68; Column 6, Lines 1 – 6)
- **regarding claim 7**, wherein the at least one tubular portion is arranged so as to form a linear fluid connection with the at least one first channel (Column 5, Lines 63 – 68; Column 6, Lines 1 – 6)
- **regarding claim 8**, at least one printhead module formed as a unitary arrangement of at least two printhead integrated circuits (Column 2, Lines 44 – 68)
- support member, at least one fluid distribution member mounting the at least two printhead integrated circuits to the support member (Column 2, Lines 55 – 62; Column 3, Lines 1 – 15), and an electrical connector for connecting electrical signals to the at least two printhead integrated circuits (Column 2, Lines 35 – 38)
- support member has plurality of apertures extending through a wall of the support member arranged so as to direct the printing fluid from the at least one channel to associated nozzles in both, or if more than two, all of the printhead integrated circuits by way of respective ones of the fluid distribution members (Column 2, Lines 40 – 43; Column 3, Lines 1 – 15)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Silverbrook (U.S. Patent 6,916,082) in view of Kishima (U.S. Pat 6,109,737).

Silverbrook discloses all of the claimed limitations except for the following:

- ***regarding claim 3***, wherein a sealing adhesive is provided at the interfaces of the interconnected fluid connectors and printhead module
- ***regarding claim 4***, wherein the sealing adhesive is an epoxy

Kishima discloses:

- ***regarding claim 3***, wherein a sealing adhesive is provided at the interfaces of the interconnected fluid connectors and printhead module (Column 38, Lines 10 – 15; Figure 25)
- ***regarding claim 4***, wherein the sealing adhesive is an epoxy (Column 38, Lines 10 – 15; Figure 25)

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the teaching of a sealing adhesive is provided at the interfaces of the interconnected fluid connectors and printhead module; , wherein the sealing adhesive is an epoxy as taught by Kishima into the device of Silverbrook.

The motivation for doing so would have been to prevent leaking of ink from the printhead.

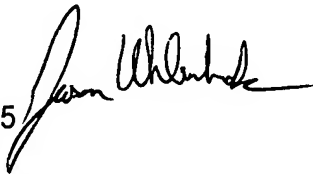
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jason Uhlenhake whose telephone number is (571) 272-5916. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Meier can be reached on (571) 272-2149. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JSU
November 29, 2005




K. FEGGINS
PRIMARY EXAMINER